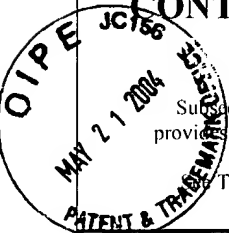


RCE \$ 1732
Jan

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	P21131
Filing Date	June 18, 2001
First Named Inventor	Izuru NAKAI
Group Art Unit	1732
Examiner Name	S. Staicovici
Attorney Docket Number	P21131

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114

a. ☒ Previously submitted

BP i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on October 22, 2003.
S-21-04 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously Filed on

iii. ☐ Other:

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Request for Extension of Time

v. ☐ Other:

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other: _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ Check in the amount of **\$ 2,780.00** enclosed.

b. ☒ If payment in the appropriate amount is not enclosed, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees required by this paper, including the RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e), any extension of time fees (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) necessary to render the RCE timely, and any suspension fee or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-0089

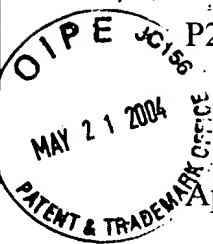
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Bruce H. Bornstein	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,027
Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date	<i>S-21-04</i>

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as a first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	
Signature	Date



P21131.A10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Izuru NAKAI

Group Art Unit: 1732

Appln. No. : 09/881,769

Examiner: S. Staicovici

Filed : June 18, 2001

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LASER DRILLING

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of April 22, 2003, with regard to which a Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently herewith, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this Response.